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Chief, Geography Division

7 October 1957

Chief, Geographic Area

Review of MR-53

1. The articles in MR-53 are very interesting and, I feel, collectively provide a variety of information which will be useful. The whole issue appears to be well organized, and each article carefully prepared and well written.

2. I have only a few questions to raise concerning several of the articles.

a. The last sentence on page 12 states that, "The use by both sides of American-furnished arms -- to the embarrassment of the United States -- would certainly be exploited by the Communist world." This statement -- which, in a sense, questions the appropriateness of the fact that American-furnished arms are in the hands of two parties who may clash -- is not a matter for intelligence, but is rather a matter of policy which has already been decided. Therefore, I would suggest that this last sentence be removed.

b. The article on changes in Soviet travel restrictions raises several questions in my mind, some of which may be more appropriately answered in a more detailed analysis of Soviet travel restrictions. I would suggest that further thought be given to these topics:

- (1) Analysis of Soviet reasons for area travel restrictions;
- (2) Any Soviet developments in areas subsequent to the imposition of travel restrictions;
- (3) The aspect of retaliation in the imposition of travel restrictions; and
- (4) The analysis of patterns of travel-restricted areas and the relations of these areas to what we know is going on in the areas.

If any of these topics could be treated in this MR article without disrupting the publication of this issue, it may be appropriate to treat them.

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c. The other question which I have concerns a statement in the last article on page 31, which says, "CIA and State Department personnel can direct requests for plastic relief maps to the CIA Map Library." In view of the fact that the entire article will advertise the plastic relief map coverage, there is some question as to whether we should specifically name the CIA Map Library Division to handle requests. I realize that the Map Library has the responsibility, but at the same time, they are currently handling requests for plastic relief maps to the extent of their budget allocation for this purpose. I am somewhat concerned that the article will stimulate people to request additional relief maps, at a cost of \$2.50 per map, which would soon bankrupt the D/GL account. In view of D/GL responsibility for handling requests, coupled with the expense involved and their limited funds, I urge you to consider the desirability of the retention of this statement.



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